

Prevention of Substance Abuse

Where can I find Substance Abuse prevention services?

Service coordination and funding to address substance abuse prevention is located in the Division of MH/DD/SAS in the Office of Prevention and Early Intervention in the Community Policy Management section. The North Carolina Office of Prevention provides leadership in substance abuse prevention providing guidance for programs, practices and policies that are designed to prevent or delay the onset of/use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. This is accomplished through the use of strategies that have proven to be effective for different population groups. A team of experts focus on mental health promotion, developmental disability supports and substance abuse prevention under the prevention umbrella.

How do I find out about substance abuse prevention services at the county level?

Each Local Management Entity (LME) has a designated "point of contact" for substance abuse services who is responsible for the federal block grant funds at the county level. This contact person can be found by calling the LME for your local area.

What is being done about alcohol and other drugs in my community?

Several groups have come together in the community to address alcohol and drug issues. The Partnerships, Alliances, Coalitions and Collaboratives (PACCs) have come together to provide education and advocacy for substance abuse prevention services. The PACCs are open to any individual, group or organization interested in participation. Find out more information about the PACCS and recent information about prevention at www.preventionistheanswer.org. Specific information about underage drinking and its effects are also addressed by the North Carolina Preventing Underage Drinking Initiative (NCPUD) that can be found at www.ncpud.org.

How can I become more involved?

Contact the local Centers for Prevention Resources (CPRs) to become involved in substance abuse prevention advocacy and finding resources for your community. There are 4 CPRs located across the state in Charlotte, Winston-Salem, Pembroke, and Wilmington located at www.nccpr.org. More information about drugs and the state-wide media campaign can also be found at www.drugfreenc.org.

For more information on substance abuse prevention services in our state, contact Dr. Janice Petersen, Director, Office of Prevention, Team Leader, Prevention and Early Intervention, (919) 715-5989 or Janice.petersen@dhhs.nc.gov